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Dated: August 26, 2008

Signature: 

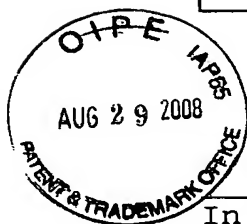
(William A. Di Bianca)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 3738

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-437

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Errico et al.

Application No.: 10/784,646

Filed: February 23, 2004

For: ARTIFICIAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISC
TRIAL HAVING A CONTROLLABLY
SEPARABLE DISTAL END

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: Group Art Unit: 3738
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: Examiner: B. E.
: Pellegrino
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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 26, 2008, finally rejecting claims 1-21, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: